



## 2021 Annual Report



### 29th Annual General Meeting

## Traditional Acknowledgement

The members of the Ontario Woodlot Association acknowledge that we are on the shared traditional Lands of the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island.

Long before today, there has always been Indigenous Peoples and they are the original stewards of this Land. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, work and play here.

We offer our thanks and honour all the generations of Peoples before us who have survived and thrived here since time long past. This Land continues to serve as a meeting place and crossroads for Peoples of many Nations.

Our recognition of the contributions and importance of Indigenous Peoples is part of our collective commitment to make Truth and Reconciliation real in our community as we strive for a harmonious shared future.

*Cover Photo: Left to right: Eleanor Reed (Kawartha Chapter), Erica Dixon (Kawartha Chapter), and Brittany MacKenzie (Renfrew County Chapter) at the Fleetwood Community Forest Owners Cooperative in December 2021.*

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### Preamble

This annual report provides members with a summary of the activities undertaken by the Association and outlines its accomplishments for the 2021 year. Also included are brief reports from the Association’s Committees and a copy of the Association’s 2021 financial statement prepared by Crowe BGK L.L.P. Chartered Accountants, for the year ending December 31, 2021.

**Woodlot:** The Ontario Woodlot Association (OWA) defines “woodlot” to mean any private or community-owned treed property including all woodlands, wetlands, and forest-forming habitats. The term “forest” is used to describe the larger treed landscape.

## **I. Who We Are**

The OWA is a not-for-profit grassroots organization governed by an elected, volunteer board of directors. Many of our members own and manage woodlots throughout the province and include individuals and organizations that support our goals. We believe that private landowners play a key role in ensuring that sustainably managed forests remain a part of Ontario's future.

## **II. Our Vision**

Ensuring the sustainability of Ontario's privately owned forests now and in the future.

## **III. Our Mission**

Helping each other to become the best possible stewards of our woodlands!

## **IV. Our Values**

As an organization built by enthusiastic and engaged people, committed to using best management practices, we want our woodlots to be:

- ∞ Sustainable and productive
- ∞ Ecologically healthy and diverse
- ∞ Spiritually and physically renewing

## **V. Our Value Proposition**

We are a community of woodlot owners that live, work and play in our forests. Together we restore, manage and advocate for healthy forest ecosystems.

## **VI. High Level Goals**

### **1. Live**

Grow a substantial and supportive network of members living in diverse forests throughout Ontario

### **2. Work**

Promote stewardship that creates forest products from sustainably managed forests today and tomorrow. Celebrate local forest-made products, and the professionals that provide forest services.

### **3. Play**

Promote, through education and mentorship, the benefits of a healthy ecosystem thereby increasing the enjoyment of our forests (spiritual, recreational, and aesthetic). Foster recognition of the environmental benefits of active forest management that also supports rural social and economic health at all levels.

## President's Message

2021 was a successful year for the Ontario Woodlot Association. We have much to be proud of in terms of the progress made in modernizing many aspects of our business model, through growing our communications and outreach initiatives, and in becoming a more proactive and engaged organization.

We doubled our staff to four, welcoming Erica Dixon as Communications Coordinator, and Glen Prevost as Program Coordinator. With Joanne Dudka, our Office Manager, and John Pineau as Executive Director, I can state confidently that we have a formidable team in place. We also doubled our budget, diversifying our revenues, and successfully applying for, and receiving several funding grants. We also began the process of merging with the Eastern Ontario Model Forest, assuming operational responsibility for most of their programs and projects including managing the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification program for community forests and private woodlots.

Progress on the implementation of the Wild Apricot platform continued unabated in 2021. While we fine-tuned how our membership data and e-commerce is managed by the system, we also ported the content and successfully recreated our website (including a new on-line Woodland Store), with a modern and contemporary look, and full integration into the platform. There have been many positive comments about how our new website looks and functions as a result of these changes. The development of a new OWA logo and changes to our corporate visual identity also received rave reviews and contributed to this high aesthetic quality of the new website, and to that of all other communication initiatives.

Here are a few more accomplishments that deserve mention: the development, approval, and implementation of a new five-year (2022-2026) strategic plan; a complete makeover and restructuring of *The Ontario Woodlander*, our

quarterly publication; the introduction of Woodlands Walk 'N' Talks, a new monthly video series that includes live Q&A with a different member every month; a revamped and redesigned monthly e-newsletter, and many, many relevant and informative on-line webinars and their subsequent recordings made available on our YouTube channel afterwards.

Two key projects also realized exciting successes in 2021. Our Community Forest Owners Cooperative Pilots in Kawartha and Huronia chapters both saw harvesting operations commence after much planning and preparation by volunteers and our field managers – Eleanor Reed and Jim Eccles. It is exciting that we are now seeing enough happening in both pilots, to determine if our approach to the cooperatives is viable and will ultimately be successful. Our Woodlot Inventory and Economics Study in the United Counties of Prescott and Russell also achieved great results, with the production of 200,000 ha. of forest inventory derived from LiDAR data. I would like to thank our University of Toronto Interns – Shan Shukla and Ben Gwilliam for their outstanding work on these key OWA projects, and the volunteers who supported them, especially Dr. Kym Snarr and Murray Woods.

Through positive initiatives, projects and programs, and many excellent chapter events, we collectively continue to position the OWA as an active, inclusive, and engaged organization. Our membership is steadily growing, but there are many more private forest owners who need what we offer. With wonderfully strong and competent volunteers, and top-notch staff, there is no end to the positive possibilities that the OWA will achieve in 2022 and beyond.

Sincerely,



Paul Robertson  
President

## Chapters of the Ontario Woodlot Association

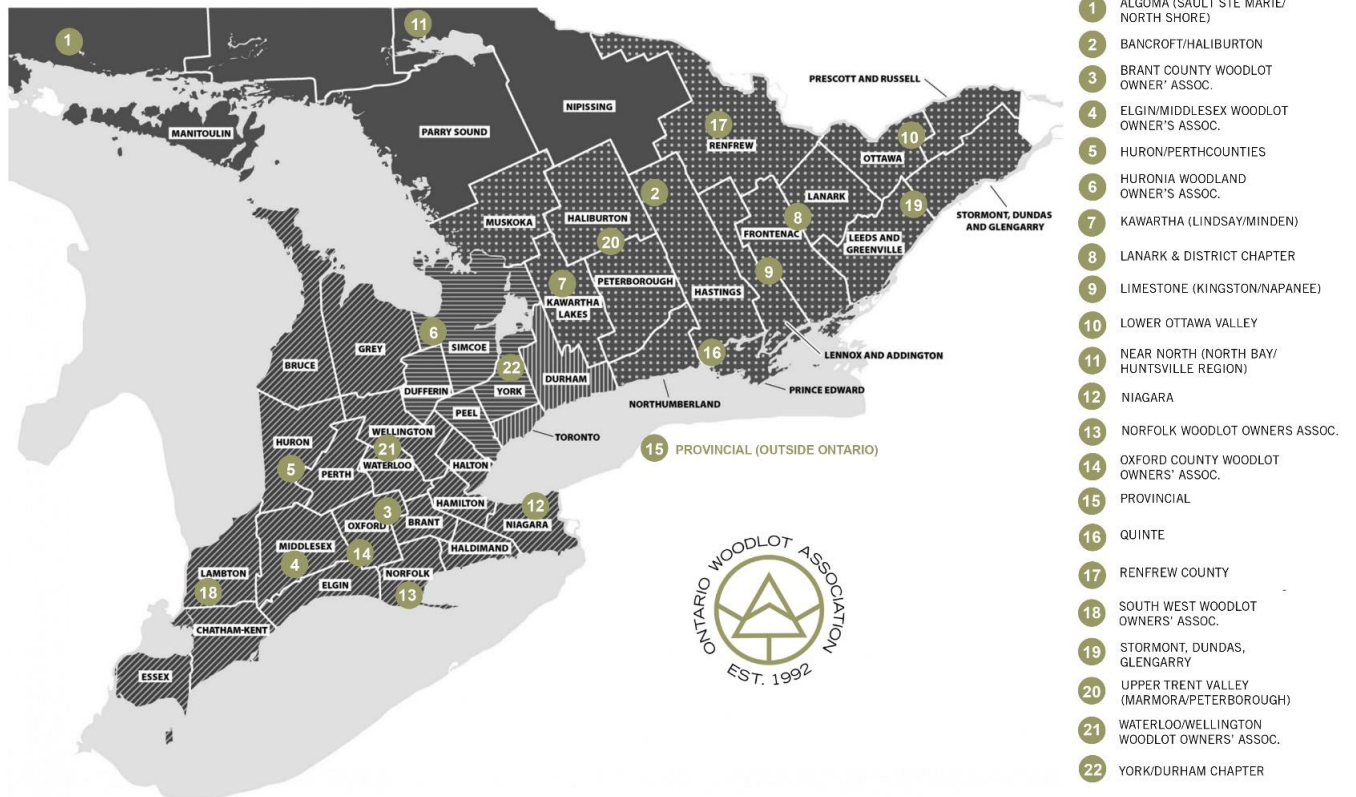
(as of December 31, 2021)

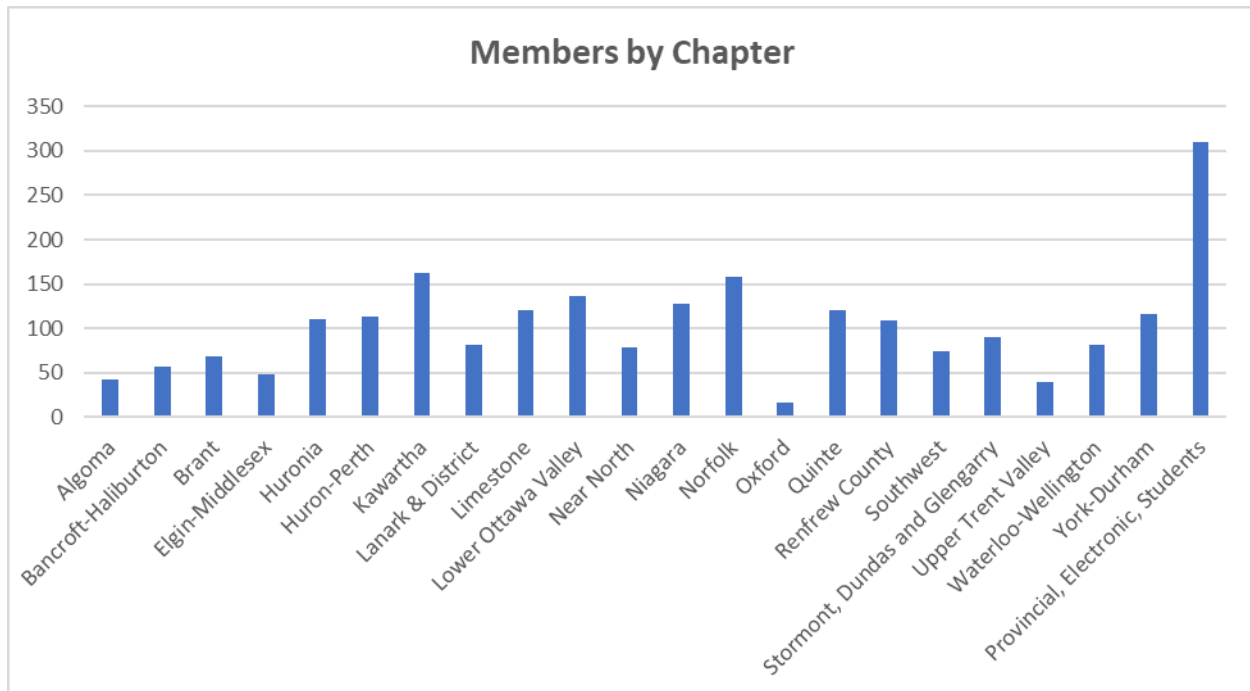
- |                                                |                                               |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1. Southwest Woodlot Association               | 11. Renfrew Chapter                           |
| 2. Huron/Perth Chapter                         | 12. Upper Trent Valley Chapter                |
| 3. Niagara Woodlot Association                 | 13. Kawartha Chapter                          |
| 4. Waterloo/Wellington Chapter                 | 14. Oxford County Woodlot Owners' Association |
| 5. Algoma Chapter                              | 15. Near North Chapter                        |
| 6. Elgin/Middlesex Woodlot Owners' Association | 16. York/Durham Chapter                       |
| 7. Limestone Chapter                           | 17. Brant County Woodlot Owners' Association  |
| 8. Bancroft - Haliburton Chapter               | 18. Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry Chapter         |
| 9. Quinte Chapter                              | 19. Lanark & District Chapter                 |
| 10. Lower Ottawa Valley Chapter                | 20. Huronia Woodland Owners                   |

## OWA Chapter Map

Note: Map includes the Norfolk Chapter, which joined the OWA on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

### ONTARIO WOODLOT ASSOCIATION CHAPTER MAP





**Dec 31, 2021: 2,267 OWA members**

## Provincial Board of Directors

### Nine Elected Officers to the Board of Directors

#### (Executive Committee)

- |                                             |                                             |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| ✧ Paul Robertson, President (Niagara)       | ✧ Nathan Manion (Limestone)                 |
| ✧ Faye Johnson, Vice-President (Near North) | ✧ Don Willis (Near North)                   |
| ✧ Art Shannon (Provincial)                  | ✧ Colleen Drew-Baehre (Bancroft-Haliburton) |
| ✧ Kerry Coleman (Lower Ottawa Valley)       | ✧ Ian Fife (Brant)                          |
| ✧ Dorothy Hamilton (SD&G)                   |                                             |

### Chapter Representatives on the Board

- |                                              |                                        |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| ✧ Bryan Code (Algoma)                        | ✧ Don Willis (Near North)              |
| ✧ Colleen Drew- Baehre (Bancroft-Haliburton) | ✧ Olivia Groff (Niagara)               |
| ✧ Neil Dunning (Brant)                       | ✧ Vacant (Oxford County)               |
| ✧ Stanley Caveney (Elgin/Middlesex)          | ✧ Marian Petelycky (Quinte)            |
| ✧ Jim Marchand (Hurononia)                   | ✧ Katalijn MacAfee (Renfrew County)    |
| ✧ Vacant (Huron-Perth)                       | ✧ David Braet (Southwest)              |
| ✧ Eleanor Reed (Kawartha)                    | ✧ Dorothy Hamilton (SD&G)              |
| ✧ Fred Huszarik (Lanark and District)        | ✧ Stuart Giles (Upper Trent Valley)    |
| ✧ Chris Delage (Limestone)                   | ✧ Peter Williams (Waterloo/Wellington) |
| ✧ Barbara Clark (Lower Ottawa Valley)        | ✧ Richard Simpson (York/Durham)        |

## OWA Staff

- ∅ John Pineau (Executive Director) – Near North
- ∅ Erica Dixon (Communications Coordinator) - Kawartha
- ∅ Glen Prevost (Program Coordinator) – Near North
- ∅ Joanne Dudka (Office Manager) – Lower Ottawa Valley
- ∅ Ben Gwilliam (Inventory and Economics Intern) – York-Durham
- ∅ Shan Shukla (Forest Cooperative Intern) – York Durham
- ∅ Eleanor Reed (Fleetwood Cooperative Field Manager) - Kawartha
- ∅ Jim Eccles (Huronian Cooperative Field Manager) - Huronia

## OWA Committee Reports

### Executive Committee

- |                                       |                                                       |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| ∅ Paul Robertson, Chair (Niagara)     | ∅ Nathan Manion (Limestone)                           |
| ∅ Faye Johnston (Near North)          | ∅ Colleen Drew-Baehre (Bancroft-Haliburton)           |
| ∅ Art Shannon (Provincial)            | ∅ Ian Fife (Brant)                                    |
| ∅ Kerry Coleman (Lower Ottawa Valley) | ∅ John Pineau (Executive Director/Near North Chapter) |
| ∅ Don Willis (Near North)             |                                                       |
| ∅ Dorothy Hamilton (SD&G)             |                                                       |

The Executive Committee (EC) has supervision of OWA’s affairs between general and Board of Directors’ meetings. The EC makes recommendations to the Board and performs other duties as specified in the constitution. The EC is subject to the orders of the Board, and none of its acts will conflict with actions taken by the Board. The EC held 14 meetings in 2021. During the year, the EC oversaw the development of a new five-year strategic plan (2022-2026) that was led by a specially formed Strategic Planning Committee that included members of the EC, and engaged additional volunteers from the Board and the membership. The plan went through several iterations, was thoroughly reviewed, and was ultimately well received and approved by the full Board in December 2021. The development of a progress tracking process for all targets and milestones outlined in the new strategic plan, has also been implemented.

### Nomination Committee

- |                                   |                                        |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| ∅ Paul Robertson, Chair (Niagara) | ∅ Rick Wilkins (Southwest)             |
| ∅ Barb Clark (LOV)                | ∅ Colleen Baehre (Bancroft-Haliburton) |

The main purpose of the Nomination Committee is to provide the Association with the names of qualified and willing members, to fill at least the minimum requirement of OWA officers on the Executive (currently nine). The Committee does this by working with the President and the Executive Director to recruit qualified members to run for office. The Nomination Committee also provides advice to the Board regarding the management of the Association’s overall volunteer resources. The Nomination Committee achieved its main goal by providing enough member candidates to fill the Executive Committee in 2021. Growing and using volunteer capacity effectively and strategically will be vital to the future success of the OWA, and the Nomination Committee will play a key role in ensuring that our pool of volunteers is deployed and managed in the best possible manner.

*Paul Robertson,*

Nomination Committee Chair



## Report from the Audit Committee

- ✧ Andrew Kenney (Lanark)
- ✧ Dorothy Hamilton (Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry)

The Audit Committee (AC) consisted of Andy Kenney (Member Representative) and Dorothy Hamilton (Board of Directors Representative) recognizing that they were not acting as licensed public accountants nor exercising the rigour necessary for a formal audit opinion. The AC met "virtually" on March 28, 2022 to discuss their reviews of the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings and the audit report from 2021. The committee met virtually with each member of the staff and the Executive Director on April 4. The primary objective of these meetings was to review the systems and procedures that relate to the safeguarding of OWA assets, general office procedures, and the Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors.

The 2020/21 operating year saw many significant changes that have fundamentally transformed the organization. The year saw substantial progress towards the development of a new constitution and revised by-laws. A significant part of updating the OWA brand has included a totally re-organized and expanded website. Many aspects of record keeping and communications have been consolidated and enhanced using the *Wild Apricot* membership management platform. Membership has grown and a financial surplus has been recorded. The Woodlander magazine is now recognized as a highly praised publication. These are just a few of the positive milestones for the year. Not surprisingly, some of these changes have meant that some goals or tasks identified in last year's Audit Report have not been met or accomplished as identified in that report. In most cases, these missed goals and incomplete tasks should not be seen as shortcomings or failures but rather the result of "moving targets" as the organizations rapidly evolves.

Our specific findings and conclusions follow.

1. Review of OWA books and financial records.

The accountant's report was received on April 12, 2022 and was reviewed by the AC. The accountant did not highlight any concerns at that time. In general, the report showed a positive outlook for the year with a \$25,754 surplus recorded. Three points pertaining to the books and financial record arose in discussions with the ED.

1. This accountant's report only includes OWA financial statements. The EOMF books will be assessed separately for the year in question.
2. The Forest Certification Coordinator's wages and expenses are factored into this report – funds that were transferred from EOMF are reported under Project Revenues and expenses are under Wages and Travel. This approach will be modified in 2022 with new tracking categories that will identify FSC revenues and expenditures.
3. In the accountant's report under Administrative Expenses – Office, the number from 2020 was \$6,080 and for 2021 it was \$31,287. The ED explained that this large variance is due to activities to do with the new on-line store – purchasing certain items (swag), shipping, receiving, etc. The adoption of the new financial, administration and web platform – *Wild Apricot*, including its annual license fee

was all grouped in this category. Some new computer equipment that was needed for the office was also included.

2. Review of previous (2020) Audit Committee's recommendations:

1.2. Approximately 30 members did not include HST in their membership fees in 2020.

**2021 Recommendation:** Aside from another reminder to include HST on next year's invoices, the Executive Committee should provide some direction to the Office Manager on how to deal with missing HST on membership dues.

**2022 Status:** The Office Manager advised the AC that this matter has been resolved. For any incidental cases where the HST is omitted, the member is contacted and asked to submit the outstanding amount.

2.1. Make OWA Committee profiles available on the website.

**2021 Status – Incomplete:**

**2021 Recommendation:** It is suggested that the various committees and a description of their mandates be shown, and possibly a contact name for each committee.

**2022 Status:** Committee profiles are not yet shown on the OWA website. The OWA website has been completely revamped over the past year and is still being expanded at the time of this audit. The drafting of a new constitution and by-laws, and the merger with the EOMF means that the structure of some committees is in a state of flux which has delayed the addition of the committee profiles to the web site. The Communications Coordinator has indicated that committee profiles will be added to the website as soon as possible.

2.3. Convene a meeting between the Communications and Chapter Support Committees, Executive Director and Website Developer to discuss enhancements to the OWA website.

**2021 Status – In-progress:** Work on the new website, with enhancements, is in progress.

**2022 Status:** No Chapter Support Committee currently exists. The new website was launched in November 2021. At the time of this audit, the Communications Coordinator was continuing to add to the website content. The Communications Coordinator has contacted the Chapters to identify their needs and has prepared a brief summary of the trends that were identified during these meetings.

2.4. Develop Standards for Social Media (Website, Facebook, and Twitter) for volunteers.

**2021 Status – In-progress.**

**2022 Status:** Standards *per se* have not been written but the administration section of the website is being developed to provide support and guidance for the Chapters. A flow chart for how information is to flow throughout the organization has been developed and well-received by the Chapters.

2.8. Develop a functional work description for all key staff positions, e.g. Executive Director, Office Manager, etc.

**2021 Status – In-progress:** All have been developed, but still need to be finalized and approved within individual's contracts.

**2022 Status:** The ED has prepared Professional Development Plans in consultation with each staff member. These plans include general job specifications with key tasks and expectations as well as professional development targets. All Professional Development Plans have been signed by staff except for the Private Lands Forest Inventory Analyst. This plan is nearing completion and, in the interim, the deliverables from his contract provide guidance.

2.9. Develop a standard check list for chapters, including but not limited to: executive positions, use of social media, recording and submitting of volunteer hours, budget preparations, and format and function of an Annual General Meeting (AGM).

**2021 Status – Incomplete:** It is recommended to reopen and review the Chapter Toolkit to ensure a universal set of basic standards of operation for all chapters.

**2022 Status:** The term Chapter Toolkit is no longer in formal use but many of the items to be part of such a document are being added to the "administration" section of the website. The implementation of the *Wild Apricot* membership management platform has advanced the organization and exchange of information significantly.

2.10. Create professionally prepared displays for use at OWA events (AGM, farm and trade shows, plowing matches, etc.), which could also be used by Chapters. **2021 Status – Incomplete:** Notwithstanding that there is no urgency to develop physical displays due to cost and Covid-19 restrictions on physical gatherings, it might be useful to develop a standard presentation about the OWA for use by the Chapters (YouTube as well) that could be shown on computers, or screen/projector, and be transferable by download or memory stick.

**2022 Status:** Portable graphic and electronic displays have not been developed. However, as part of the re-branding of the OWA, a new PowerPoint template has been developed and can be made available to Chapters to promote their activities.

### **3. Recommendations from the 2020 Audit Committee**

3.1. Recognizing that the Covid-19 Pandemic has had a major impact on OWA operations at both the executive as well as Chapter levels, it is recommended that the Executive Committee assign a sub-group, or summer student (Master's thesis?), to evaluate both the positive and negative impacts of the Pandemic, as well as opportunities for streamlining and improving operations in the future as a result of the Pandemic.

**2022 Status:** Not initiated, however Chapters have been contacted by staff to assist Chapters with their operations and activities as COVID continues to persist.

3.2. We recommend bringing the potential merger with the Eastern Ontario Model Forest (EOMF) to a mutually beneficial conclusion over the next year.

**2022 Status:** The OWA Board unanimously approved the merger with the EOMF at their March 17, 2021 meeting with a one year transition. The merger is underway. To meet provincial and federal legislation requirements, the completion of the merger between OWA and the EOMF is not expected until 2023.

3.3. It has been noted that occasionally action items and potentially good ideas recorded in meeting minutes of the various committees are sometimes lost without follow-up in subsequent meetings. It is recommended that meeting secretaries be rigorous in ensuring follow-up on recorded action items.

**2022 Status:** This has not been addressed specifically but the ED has noted a trend to more direct follow-up for all committees and chapters.

#### **4. Recommendations from the 2021 Audit Committee**

4.1 The future stability and efficient operation of the OWA will benefit from a staff that has a broad understanding of the organization and, ideally, some of its history. The Professional Development Plans mentioned under 2.8 above are focussed on current individual employees. In addition, the organization needs a longer-term strategy which is broader in scope. **The ED should initiate the preparation of a succession plan addressing all current staff positions, including that of Executive Director.**

4.2 The Office Manager and Communications Coordinators tend to have regular contact with members, Chapters and other OWA staff. When either of these individuals is absent for holidays or illness, their day-to-day work is covered by the ED and/or other staff member. Longer-term unexpected absences and staff turn-over could disrupt the regular operation of the organization and place extra stress on the available staff. **The ED, in collaboration with all staff, should develop a strategy to provide day-to-day and medium-term coverage for the Office Manager and Communications Coordinator. This plan should be specific, clearly documented and agreed upon by the staff members. It should ensure that adequate training is in place.**

4.3 The Association is growing in size and complexity and with this, communication among staff and the various committees is critical. Our discussions with staff indicated a very positive atmosphere and sense of teamwork. However, some frustration was expressed when decisions are made within committees that affect the work of staff and the affected individuals are not always "kept in the loop" in a timely fashion. **All staff, committees and Board members should be reminded of the importance of assessing the impact of their decisions on staff time and the need to discuss these implications with the affected staff clearly and promptly.**

**Status Summary of Issues From 2020 Audit Report and Recommendations from 2021 Audit Report**

**Review of previous (2020) Audit Committee’s recommendations**

<b>2020 Paragraph Number</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>2022 Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1.2	Approximately 30 members did not include HST in their membership fees in 2020.	Completed	
2.1	Make OWA Committee profiles available on the website.	In-progress	
2.3	Convene meeting to discuss website enhancements.	In-progress	Website design and content development is an on-going process.
2.4	Develop Standards for social media for volunteers.		Flow chart developed and well-received by the Chapters.
2.8	Develop job descriptions.	Nearing completion	Professional Development Plans completed for all staff except one, which is nearing completion.
2.9	Develop Chapter Toolkit to ensure a universal set of basic standards of operation for all chapters.		
2.10	Create professionally prepared displays for use at OWA events.		OWA PowerPoint template developed and available to Chapters.
3.1	Evaluate impacts of the COVID on OWA operations and lessons learned.	Not initiated	Staff assistance made available to Chapters.
3.2	Finalize merger with EOMF.	In-progress	OWA Board approved merger. Completion expected in 2023.
3.3	Meeting secretaries be rigorous in ensuring follow-up on recorded action items.	Not initiated	Improvement in follow-up noted by ED.

**Recommendations from the 2021 Audit Committee**

4.1	Develop a succession plan for staff positions.
4.2	Develop a plan to provide cover for absent staff.
4.3	Ensure effective communications between volunteers, Board and Staff.

*Andrew Kenney*  
Member Representative

*Dorothy Hamilton*  
Board Representative

## Report from the Communications Committee

- ✧ Brian McClean, Chair (Limestone)
- ✧ Neil Dunning (Brant)
- ✧ Tedd Wood (Lower Ottawa Valley)
- ✧ Kerry Coleman (Lower Ottawa Valley)
- ✧ Matt DeMille (Upper Trent Valley)
- ✧ Erica Dixon (York-Durham)
- ✧ Paul Robertson (Niagara)
- ✧ John Pineau (Near North)

Over the past year, the Communications Committee (CC), chaired by Brian McClean, met monthly via zoom conferences. After two years of service, Valentine Makhouleen retired from CC participation. His many contributions to the CC's successes were much appreciated. President Paul Robertson also attended meetings in an advisory capacity.

During the past year, the CC concentrated on achieving the following objectives specified in its mandate:

- Overseeing and advising on the general content, production and quality of all communications media employed by the OWA including *The Ontario Woodlander*, the OWA website, *e-Newsletter*, and all OWA social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Linked-in).
- The continued honing of *The Ontario Woodlander* – the OWA's flagship publication. A key improvement was the expansion to 48-60 pages. This permitted the continued publication of not only "themed issues", but also the provision for more non-themed articles, the augmentation of articles with more photographs and charts, greater space allotted to Chapter information and the highlighting of specific members and their woodlots.
- Acting as a sounding board for themes and informational items that warrant inclusion in OWA media.
- Monitoring communications – internal and external – to ensure that they are reflective of OWA policies and values.
- Monitoring OWA communications to ensure that content meets OWA members' needs and that OWA members can easily navigate OWA communication links such as the OWA website.
- Increasing Indigenous land and resource management articles in *The Ontario Woodlander* and *e-Newsletter*.
- Identifying new avenues to publicize the OWA, especially in terms of attracting new members including young people with an interest in forests and environmental protection, MFTIP participants who are not OWA members and forest owners who are unaware of the many perks that OWA membership offers.

*Brian McClean*

Communications Committee Chair



## Report from the Business Development Committee

- |                                   |                                           |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| ✧ Paul Robertson, Chair (Niagara) | ✧ Jack McFadden (Huronía)                 |
| ✧ Don Willis (Near North)         | ✧ Martin Litchfield (Waterloo-Wellington) |
| ✧ Nathan Manion (Limestone)       | ✧ John Pineau (Near North)                |
| ✧ David Braet (Southwest)         | ✧ Erica Dixon (Kawartha)                  |
| ✧ Art Shannon (Provincial)        | ✧ Tim Hudak (Niagara), Special Advisor    |
| ✧ Marian Petelycky (Quinte)       |                                           |
| ✧ Eleanor Reed (Kawartha)         |                                           |

The purpose of the Business Development Committee (BDC) is to serve in an advisory capacity to the OWA Board and the Executive Director, providing a forum for developing and implementing initiatives relating to increasing and diversifying the OWA's revenues, services and improving efficiencies. In this respect, the BDC continued several projects initiated in 2020 including the establishment of two Community Forest Owners Cooperative Pilot Projects, located in Kawartha and Huronia Chapters. The Cooperatives have brought together landowners with unmanaged conifer plantations to create economies of scale that allow the implementation of best forest management practices. The OWA oversees the management, harvesting and selling of participating landowners forest products as part of each Cooperative. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, harvesting in the Kawartha cooperative had commenced.

The BDC also supported a second project focusing on forest inventory creation using LiDAR data, and the economic modeling of best management practices on woodlots within the landbase of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell. This project was a follow up to the first successful economics study completed by Hailey Kim in 2019-20. The project was a success with the production of 200,000 hectares of LiDAR derived forest inventory, and the delineation of six case study woodlots for economic analysis and modeling of best management practices. This project will serve as an important precursor to a large-scale project for the creation of private land forest inventory and a silvics library for all of Ontario.

Both the Cooperative and the Inventory and Economics projects engaged summer interns from the University of Toronto's Master of Forest Conservation Program, who based their capstone papers on their work objectives and experiences. Forest Tech students from both Algonquin and Fleming colleges were also enlisted to assist with field validation data collection in the Inventory and Economics Project.

The BDC met 12 times over the course of 2021. In addition to developing and helping to oversee and review progress on the aforementioned projects, a main focus of the majority of these meetings was assisting with the planning and preparation of funding proposals for these OWA projects. The BDC supported the preparation and submission of successful funding proposals to the following agencies:

- Centre for Research and Innovation in the Bio Economy (CRIBE)
- Ontario Power Generation
- Forestry Futures Trust
- International Model Forest Network
- Cascades Pulp and Paper
- Eco Canada

*Paul Robertson*

Business Development Committee Chair

## Report from the Awards Committee

- ✧ Kerry Coleman, Chair (LOV)
- ✧ Ian Fife (Kawartha)
- ✧ Matt DeMille (Upper Trent Valley)
- ✧ Dorothy Hamilton (SD&G)
- ✧ Nathan Manion (Limestone)
- ✧ Peter Leenhouts (LOV)
- ✧ Art Shannon (Provincial)
- ✧ Paul Robertson (Niagara)
- ✧ John Pineau, Executive Director (Near North)

The Ontario Woodlot Association (OWA) is overdue in recognizing outstanding volunteers within the association, as well as individuals externally who have made significant contributions to sustainable forest management in Ontario.

In 2021, the Awards Committee developed four award categories with associated eligibility and selection criteria, and a nomination process that was approved by the Board of Directors. The OWA is blessed to have many outstanding volunteers both within the OWA as well as outside of the OWA who are outstanding in promoting good forest stewardship while supporting the OWA in achieving its vision, mission, and values, both as a volunteer and/or in a professional capacity. The OWA also wants to recognize those individuals promoting a better understanding and appreciation of forest values that are not only important to us but to future leaders of organizations like the OWA.

### Harry Barr Award

This award recognizes exceptional hours of volunteerism that an OWA member or Chapter has contributed to promote good forest stewardship while supporting the OWA in achieving its vision, mission, and values.

### Ken Armson Professional Award

This award is presented to individuals, groups, or businesses within or outside of the OWA exemplifying outstanding professional contributions to the vision, mission, and values of the OWA.

### Lorax Award

This award recognizes an individual or a group for outstanding achievement for promoting a better understanding and appreciation of forest values in Ontario's woodlands.

### Past Service Award

Awarded to individuals who have served on the OWA Board of Directors or as an official member of an Advisory Committee and has left the position, in recognition of their service to the OWA.

These awards will be presented for the first time at the OWA Annual Meeting in April 2022.

*Kerry Coleman*

Awards Committee Chair



## Other Sub-Committee and Team Volunteers

We would like to thank all of the other volunteers who participated on Sub-Committees and Teams throughout 2021. They are:

### AGM Planning Team (2021)

- ✧ Paul Robertson (Niagara)
- ✧ Art Shannon (Provincial)
- ✧ John Pineau (Near North)
- ✧ Erica Dixon (York-Durham)
- ✧ Joanne Dudka (Office Manager)
- ✧ Bill Steer (Canadian Ecology Centre)

### EOMF – OWA Merger Advisory Committee

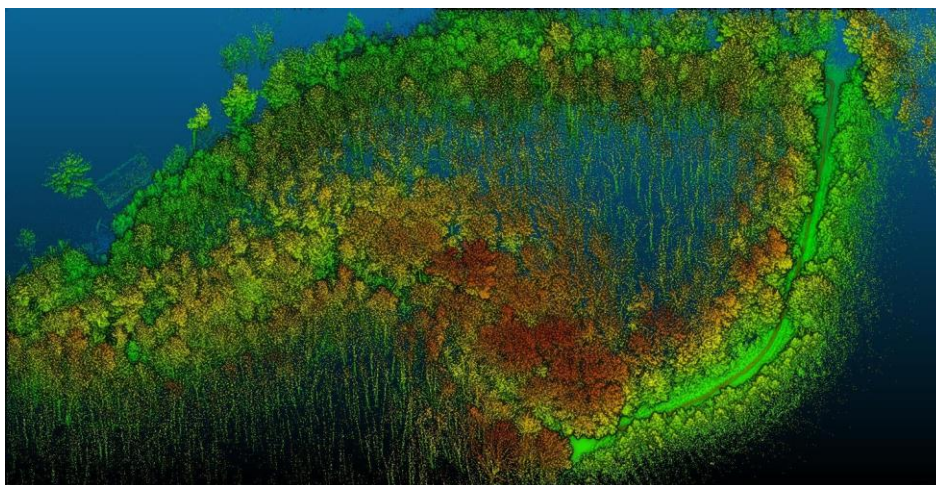
- ✧ Doug Frost (Huron)
- ✧ Rick Wismer (Niagara)
- ✧ John Pineau (Near North)
- ✧ Paul Robertson (Niagara)
- ✧ Wendy Hamilton (Brant)
- ✧ Faye Johnson (Near North)
- ✧ Joanne Dudka (Lower Ottawa Valley)
- ✧ Abraham Francis (EOMF) (SDG)
- ✧ Tony Bull (EOMF) (Renfrew County)
- ✧ Tom Richardson (EOMF)
- ✧ Brian Barkley (EOMF)

### Strategic Planning Committee

- ✧ Faye Johnson (Near North)
- ✧ Art Shannon (Provincial)
- ✧ Paul Robertson (Niagara)
- ✧ Erica Dixon (Kawartha)
- ✧ John Pineau (Near North)
- ✧ Marian Petelycky (Quinte)
- ✧ Colleen Baehre (Bancroft-Haliburton)

### Forest Inventory and Economic Project Team

- ✧ Ben Kuttner, University of Toronto
- ✧ Kymberley Snarr, Co-Chair (Provincial)
- ✧ Al Stinson (Near North)
- ✧ Paul Robertson (Niagara)
- ✧ Peter Arbour (Renfrew County)
- ✧ Scott Gauer (Kawartha)
- ✧ Erica Dixon (Kawartha)
- ✧ Steve Hunter (SD&G)
- ✧ Art Shannon (Provincial)
- ✧ Glen Prevost (Near North)
- ✧ Ben Gwilliam (York-Durham)



*A LiDAR point cloud of a wooded area. LiDAR (Light Distance and Ranging) uses laser technology to measure objects in 3D, including trees and vegetation...*

## Community Forest Owners Cooperatives Pilot Teams

- ✘ Sally Krigstin, University of Toronto
- ✘ Kymberley Snarr, Co-Chair (Provincial)
- ✘ Eleanor Reed (Kawartha)
- ✘ Jim Eccles (Huron)
- ✘ Jack McFadden (Huron)
- ✘ Doug Frost (Huron)
- ✘ Sandy Agnew (Huron)
- ✘ Paul Robertson (Niagara)
- ✘ Steve Harjula (Kawartha)
- ✘ Jeff Bond (Kawartha)
- ✘ Art Shannon (Provincial)
- ✘ Glen Prevost (Near North)
- ✘ Erica Dixon (Kawartha)
- ✘ Shan Shukla (York-Durham)

## OWA Activities

Developing and disseminating information to woodlot owners is one of the Association’s most important goals. Providing educational opportunities and promoting the awareness of sustainable management practices continued throughout 2021.

### The Association’s quarterly publication – *The Ontario Woodlander*

The Association’s quarterly magazine provides information on woodlot management and issues relating to private forests and society. It is a key part of our forest education program. Issues 102 through 105 were produced mainly by volunteers of the Communications Committee, with assistance from our staff. The Woodlander received a major redesign and restructuring in 2021, which has met with overwhelmingly positive response from the membership. The themes of this year’s issues were:

- Issue 102: Theme: Forage from the Forest
- Issue 103: Theme: Woodlot Business and Legal Interests
- Issue 104: Theme: The Benefits of Working Together
- Issue 105: Theme: Managing our Woodlots for Climate Change



All 105 issues of the quarterly publication are available for members at [www.ontariowoodlot.com](http://www.ontariowoodlot.com).

**Special thanks to all those who contributed articles to *The Ontario Woodlander* in 2021:**

- |                                 |                           |                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ∅ Paul Robertson                | ∅ The late Dave Sexsmith  | ∅ Neil Dunning                                                                                    |
| ∅ John Pineau                   | ∅ Ben Gwilliam            | ∅ Dr. Christian Messier                                                                           |
| ∅ Dick Lalonde                  | ∅ Chris Delage            | ∅ Steve Colombo                                                                                   |
| ∅ Michael Pineau                | ∅ Susie Bruemmer          | ∅ Paul Richardson                                                                                 |
| ∅ Erica Dixon                   | ∅ Ghazal Niknazar         | ∅ Melissa Spearing                                                                                |
| ∅ Matt DeMille                  | ∅ Valentine Makhouleen    | ∅ Liz Cobb                                                                                        |
| ∅ Andy and Shelley<br>Straughan | ∅ Martin Streit           | ∅ Neil Baldwin                                                                                    |
| ∅ Fred Huszarik                 | ∅ Heather Zurbrigg        | ∅ Brian Lawrence                                                                                  |
| ∅ Monica Capovilla              | ∅ Mark Kuhlberg           | ∅ Paul Renaud                                                                                     |
| ∅ Ian Fife                      | ∅ Dave Pridham            | ∅ Jack McFadden                                                                                   |
| ∅ Andrew Rochon                 | ∅ Laura Brehaut           | ∅ Forests Ontario                                                                                 |
| ∅ Luke Kastelic                 | ∅ Glen Prevost            | ∅ The Invasive Species<br>Centre                                                                  |
| ∅ John Ferguson                 | ∅ Shan Shukla             | ∅ The Ministry of Northern<br>Development, Mines,<br>Natural Resources and<br>Forestry (MNRDMNRF) |
| ∅ Kate Hayday                   | ∅ John Enright            | ∅ The Forest Gene<br>Conservation Association<br>of Ontario                                       |
| ∅ Jonathan Murray               | ∅ Thomas Unrau            | ∅ Maple Leaves Forever                                                                            |
| ∅ Eleanor Reed                  | ∅ Dr. Lauri Sikanen       |                                                                                                   |
| ∅ Steve D'Eon                   | ∅ James G. Walt (Grumpsy) |                                                                                                   |
| ∅ Tony Bull                     | ∅ Jeanette Dillon         |                                                                                                   |
| ∅ Pieter Leenhouts              | ∅ Marian Petelycky        |                                                                                                   |
| ∅ Rick Wismer                   | ∅ Scott Gauer             |                                                                                                   |
| ∅ John Snow                     | ∅ Barbara Szita-Knight    |                                                                                                   |
| ∅ Greg Greer                    | ∅ Kerry Coleman           |                                                                                                   |
|                                 | ∅ Tedd Wood               |                                                                                                   |

**A thank you to our sponsors who advertised with us in *The Ontario Woodlander* in 2021. They are:**

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ∅ Eastern Farm Machinery Ltd. | ∅ Ontario Wood                  |
| ∅ Lallemand Plant Care        | ∅ Great Canadian Camouflage     |
| ∅ MNP                         | ∅ Invasive Species Centre       |
| ∅ Woodland Mills              | ∅ Richardson's Pineneedle Farms |
| ∅ Grow Mushrooms Canada       | ∅ STIHL Limited                 |
| ∅ Irescue                     | ∅ Wood-Mizer Canada             |
| ∅ Echo                        |                                 |

*We look forward to working with you again in 2022.*

**E-Letter “*News from Around our Woodlands*”**

The Association's monthly electronic newsletter (*News from Around our Woodlands*) provides our members, partners, and supporters access to up-to-date news from across Canada and around the globe on forestry issues, listings of upcoming events, and links to useful online forestry resources. In 2021, our distribution reached over 4,500 readers. The e-Letter continued with improvements that included a new format and the inclusion of more Chapter news and photos, more relevant links delineated under provincial, national, and international categories, and new advertising. The OWA's new on-line store and the array of products available, was also featured in every issue.

## News from around the Woodlands We Love

### Survey on Canadian Forest Practices

Please take a few minutes to fill-out this special survey

[Click here for the Survey](#)

There is potential to win up to \$500 if you respond! All submissions are confidential.

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### Waterloo-Wellington Hosts Event



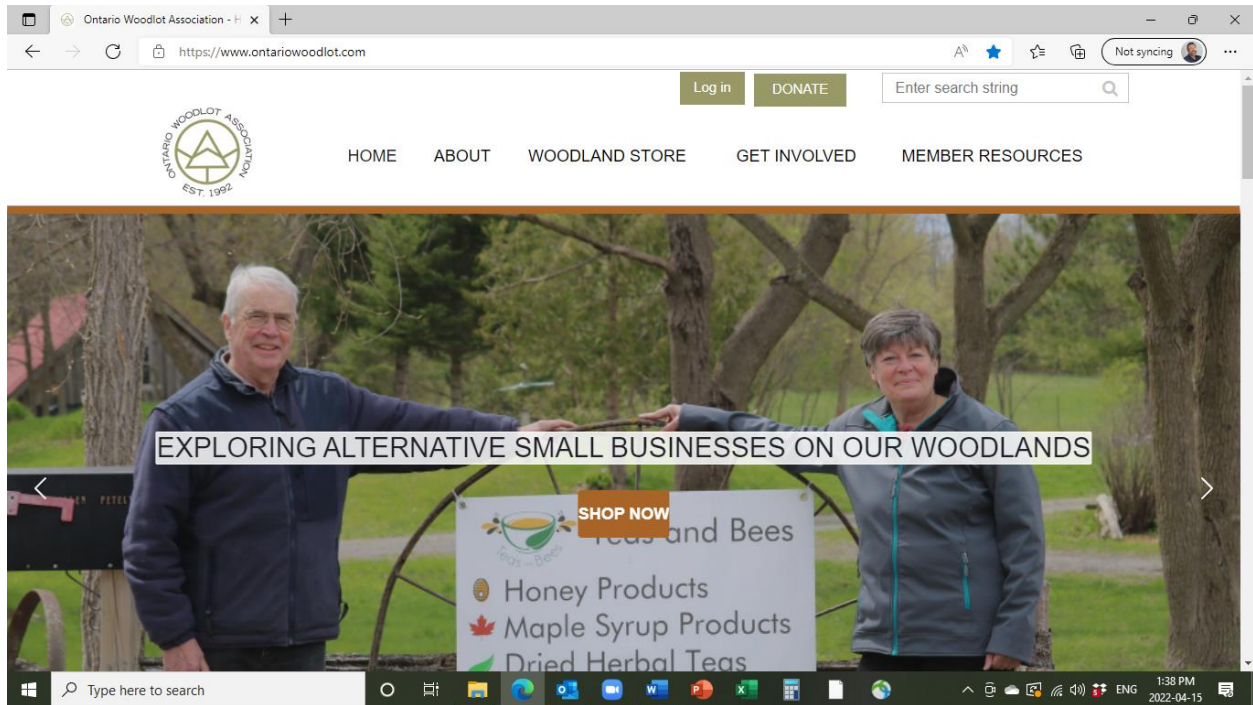
OWA member Peter Hamilton demonstrates his sawmill during a recent Waterloo-Wellington Chapter event at Rock Maple Lodge. After the tour, Chair Pete Williams led the Chapter AGM.

## OWA Website

In 2021, the OWA website was successfully ported to the Wild Apricot Platform. The website continues to be maintained and searchable under the URL address: [www.ontariowoodlot.com](http://www.ontariowoodlot.com). The member database and e-commerce functions of the website had already been ported to the Wild Apricot platform in late 2020. The Wild Apricot platform has been specifically developed for small and medium sized non-profits. The new and modern look and function of the website has been well received by all chapters and members.

This website continues to promote and highlight the Association's activities, advocacy, chapters, and members. It allows for information to be searched, and individual member's login access to all quarterly publications (*The Ontario Woodlander* and former *S&W Report*). It also serves as a key source of information on sustainable forestry and best management practices for woodlot owners and members of the general public from across Ontario.

Plans for 2022 website development includes the development of educational modules (short-courses) using existing content, standardized Chapter webpages and content, and detailed information on OWA governance including Executive, Board, and Committee composition.



The Forest Services Directory continued to function well on the new website, providing landowners with an easy one-stop-shop to locate a forest service provider in their local areas. Also, a new Woodlands store was developed with an array of quality products derived from our member woodlots, and also an assortment of OWA promotional materials (swag) being made available for purchase.

## Chapter Activities and Events

Our Chapters organize and operate hands-on activities at the local and regional levels. These events provide opportunities and venues for our members to share ideas and learn more about woodlot management from each-other, while providing an excellent forum to reach out into a like-minded community to promote the goals and objectives of the Association.

In 2021 the Chapters, like so many organizations, continued to limit holding in-person events, and where feasible many continued to opt for virtual and on-line events. A number of Chapter Annual General Meetings and webinars were held, as well as a mix of in-person events and meetings. Themes and topics for both face-to-face and virtual gatherings included invasive species updates, chainsaw safety training, tree marking for woodlot owners, edible wilds, forest health, and best management practices. The OWA partnered with the Forest Health Network and the Eastern Ontario Model Forest to deliver a series of webinars focusing on invasive species control and management. Covid-19 safety precautions were well adhered to, and in place for any and all in-person events.

As in previous years, many Chapters organized, or were partners in major regional events such as the virtual Kemptville Winter Woodlot Conference, the virtual Kawartha Woodland Conference, and more. These events continued to be excellent opportunities to raise public awareness of our organization, and the work of the Chapters and our many partners is much appreciated.

## **2021 Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and conference were again delivered in a virtual format. The AGM took place by Zoom Webinar on the afternoon of April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The conference was held over three evenings from April 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. The combined event was well-attended and successful with 130 attending the AGM in the afternoon, and 470 registered for the three conference evenings. This approach enabled the OWA to conduct necessary business and provide relevant and interesting presentations in a completely safe and conscientious manner. The Zoom Webinar platform proved to be quite effective in providing an integrated communications and networking platform for the sessions.

The AGM featured keynote speaker Rob Keen, CEO of Forests Ontario, who spoke on the history of the 50 Million Tree Program and current opportunities with the new Two Billion Tree Program. A special event – Woodland Vocations for Students, was held virtually, immediately after the AGM, and was attended by over 40 students from across Ontario.

The conference speakers and topics over the three evenings featured:

- ∅ Paul Robertson – Welcome and Introductions
- ∅ Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry John Yakabuski – Greetings from the Province
- ∅ John Pineau – Economics, Inventory and Cooperatives
- ∅ Geraint Richards – How it is Done in the Duchy
- ∅ Forest Cooperatives South of the Border
- ∅ The Nova Scotia Experience – Greg Watson
- ∅ Murray Woods and Ben Gwilliam – LiDAR, the Base of Forest Inventory in Prescott and Russell
- ∅ Kerry McLaven – Climate Change and Seed Sourcing
- ∅ Allison Winmill – Managing Various Invasives
- ∅ Al Stinson – A case of Tree Marking
- ∅ Dr. Ning Yan – Biobased Chemicals and Products from Renewable Biomass
- ∅ Dean Assinewe – A Visit to Green Legacy Farm
- ∅ Laura Kielpinski – Fighting Nature Deficit Disorder
- ∅ Ben Porchuk – The Forest as Therapy
- ∅ Bill Steer and John Pineau – Wolf Howl and Owl Hoot

The conference received rave reviews and video recordings were made available to all members through the OWA's new YouTube channel, and related links in the e-newsletter and on the website, immediately afterwards.

## **Promoting and increasing public awareness of the association**

In 2021 the Association continued to participate, mainly through virtual technology, in various events and conferences across Ontario and made a number of presentations promoting the Association and our Chapters. Events attended or where the OWA presented included:

- ∅ Canadian Institute of Forestry Annual National Conference
- ∅ Ontario Professional Foresters Association Conference
- ∅ Eastern Ontario Model Forest Annual General Meeting
- ∅ Kemptville Winter Woodlot Conference
- ∅ Forest Health Network Webinar Series
- ∅ The Kawartha Woodlot Conference

- ∅ University of Toronto Masters of Forest Conservation Class – presentation to students
- ∅ Forest Ontario Conference (virtual exhibit)
- ∅ Presentation to SFI Central Canada Committee
- ∅ Forest Health Network and Invasive Species Centre Forum
- ∅ Forest Health Network Webinar Series

## Projects

### Community Forest Owners Cooperative Pilots

The Community Forest Owners Cooperative Pilot Projects were fully and successfully established in the Fleetwood Watershed in Kawartha Chapter, and in the Couchiching Watershed in Huronia Chapter, during 2021. The pilots focus on improving forest health and restoring natural succession in orphaned and fragmented conifer plantations, while creating economies of scale that provide sustainable wood fibre to industry and modest income to landowners. OWA Intern Shan Shukla, a University of Toronto MFC candidate was hired to help coordinate and objectively study the pilot projects during the summer of 2021. Eleanor Reed and Jim Eccles were secured by the OWA as Field Managers in the Fleetwood and Huronia cooperatives respectively, visiting potential participants (landowners) to check for invasive species, evaluate forest condition, determine thinning prescriptions, and undertake tree marking as required. The OWA entered into standard contracts with Cooperative landowners to oversee all operations. A herbicide spraying contractor was engaged to deal with invasives as needed, and harvesting contractors were also secured. Harvesting by Heideman’s Forestry Services began in the Fleetwood Cooperative in early December 2021 and will begin in Huronia in early 2022, with Tree Slayers Harvesting. Once deemed successful, the cooperative model will be adapted to multiple locations in Ontario where needed – i.e. similar unmanaged conifer plantations. Educational initiatives in parallel with the pilots will help to recruit additional landowners through the OWA and partners’ virtual platforms. A publishable paper on the project has been peer reviewed and will be ready for publication in 2022. The OWA thanks all volunteers who helped with the pilots, as well as our funders: CRIBE, OPG, Cascades, and Eco Canada.

### Forest Inventory and Economics Project

The Forest Inventory and Economic Project focusing on the United Counties of Prescott-Russell was initiated and completed successfully in 2021. The project has provided new and up-to-date forest inventory data for 200,000 hectares of municipal and private forest land to these jurisdictions. OWA Intern Ben Gwilliam, a University of Toronto Masters of Forest Conservation (MFC) student, with academic supervision, and strong technical guidance and support from Murray Woods–Treedimensions and other partner advisory team members, used existing LiDAR data for the 200,000 hectares of Prescott-Russell to create the up-to-date forest inventory. With appropriate supervision, forestry technician students from Algonquin College undertook the collection of field data to validate the forest inventory produced and correct it, as necessary. The MFC and Algonquin students learned very valuable skills through mentoring from all project partners. The inventory has also been used to analyze and model economic value for six woodlots. A publishable paper on the project has been peer reviewed and will be ready for publication in 2022. The OWA thanks all volunteers who helped with this project, as well as our funders: CRIBE, Forestry Futures Trust, Cascades, and Eco Canada. This project has served as an excellent pilot that will help guide the OWA in future private land forest inventory projects.

## **Woodlands Appreciation Week**

In 2021, the OWA delivered its second annual Woodlands Appreciation Week, to promote stewardship and sustainability to its members, MFTIP forest owners and the public.

- ∞ The OWA proclaimed May 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as Ontario Woodlands Appreciation Week and encouraged members and the public to experience the five senses of woodlands appreciation as its theme. Various activities specific to these senses were encouraged throughout the week.
- ∞ Woodlands Appreciation Week was promoted by the OWA website, e-newsletter, social media and by individual Chapters. A media campaign garnered modest interest from news outlets including CBC Radio and various local and regional newspapers.
- ∞ There were several small low-key events hosted by several Chapters; due to Covid-19 these events were kept this way in the interest of health and safety and stopping the spread.
- ∞ The third annual Woodlands Appreciation Week is scheduled for May 7th to May 14th, 2022

## **Woodland Walk and Talk Video Series with Q&A**

The OWA successfully initiated a monthly Woodland Walk and Talk video series and Q&A in late 2021. The premise of the series is to feature a home-grown video of a member in their woodlot, speaking to their vision, goals, objectives, and activities on their property. The videos are linked on the OWA's YouTube channel, and after several weeks of opportunity for members to view, a live Q&A with the member is scheduled and delivered using Zoom Webinar. This new program has received rave reviews and has been particularly welcome given the restrictions of in-person events and activities resulting from the pandemic.

## **Partner Savings Program**

Lands and Forests Consulting continues to offer a 10% discount on forestry services to OWA members. Mark's Work Warehouse continues to offer a 10% discount on its products to OWA members until 2023.

## **Service Agreements and Programs with Other Organizations**

### **Stewardship Outreach Program**

The OWA has had a Stewardship Outreach Program with Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNNDMNR) from 2013 to 2021 for the development and delivery of sustainability initiatives to private landowners. The OWA sees this as an important opportunity, role, and responsibility to ensure woodlot owners across Ontario are provided education on the fundamentals of good forest management, policy, legislation, and support.

To continue to increase the profile of the outreach program, the Executive Committee communicated with OMNDMNR staff in Peterborough regularly as well as with staff at the Minister's office. The program was expanded in 2021, and additional funding was transferred to the OWA to support this expansion. The Executive Committee has an optimistic outlook for the continuation and possible further expansion of this program in 2022. The OWA is grateful for this important support from the OMNDMNR.



## Eastern Ontario Model Forest (EOMF)

The OWA and EOMF have maintained a Memorandum of Understanding for a number of years, where the OWA has delivered basic administrative duties for the FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) Certification members, and other general activities – i.e., conference and event registration. This agreement was adjusted in 2021 to include a significant increase in administrative service, project management and project delivery provided by the OWA to the EOMF; within the context of an on-going merger of the two organizations that should be completed legally and formally by the beginning of 2023.

The OWA assumed management and delivery of the FSC Certification Program, and a special outreach project in partnership with the Invasive Species Centre, as well as providing support for the EOMF/CIF December Seminar and the Kemptville Winter Woodlot Conference. All financial and administrative requirements of the EOMF including bookkeeping, banking, day to day operations, charitable tax returns and audits are now overseen OWA staff. As of 2021, the two organizations share the same Executive Director position.

## Canadian Federation of Forest Owners (CFFO)

The Canadian Federation of Forest Owners (CFFO) is a national federation of private forest landowners. The CFFO promotes the economic and social interests of Canadian private forest landowners in sustainable management by representing their views through a united national voice.

The CFFO was formed in 2020 by the merger of the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners (CFWO) and the Canadian Association of Forest Owners (CAFO). As a member of the Federation, the Association works closely with the CFFO to ensure the concerns of Ontario’s woodlot owners are being addressed at the federal government level. OWA Executive Director John Pineau is a member of the Board of the CFFO, and is also serving as Secretary, as of August 2020. The CFFO’s website is:

<https://www.forestowners.ca/>

## Our Partners & Supporters

Partnerships and the sharing of information are key to the success of the OWA. It would be an overwhelming task for any one organization to address all the issues facing woodlot owners in Ontario. At this time, we would like to thank those who have shared in our success in 2021:

- ∅ Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry
- ∅ Centre for Research and Innovation in the Bio Economy (CRIBE)
- ∅ Forestry Futures Trust (FFT)
- ∅ Ontario Power Generation (OPG)
- ∅ Cascades
- ∅ Marks
- ∅ MNP
- ∅ Canadian Federation of Forest Owners
- ∅ International Model Forest Network – Canadian Forest Service
- ∅ Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
- ∅ Eco Canada
- ∅ Wintergreen Studios
- ∅ University of Toronto
- ∅ Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- ∅ Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- ∅ Canadian Institute of Forestry
- ∅ Friends of the Petawawa Research Forest
- ∅ Eastern Ontario Model Forest
- ∅ Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association
- ∅ Ontario Professional Foresters Association
- ∅ Forests Ontario
- ∅ Conservation Ontario

- ✧ Algonquin College
- ✧ Fleming College

- ✧ Birds Canada
- ✧ The Jackman Foundation

Special thanks to all the volunteers, including members of the Provincial and Chapter Boards of Directors, and the committees for their time which they have contributed in 2021.

### **Friends of the OWA**

The Association is grateful to our Friends of the OWA and their generosity and support of the "Friends" Program. The following people made donations during 2021:

- ✧ Dolf Wynia
- ✧ Brent Bowyer
- ✧ Jonathan Murray
- ✧ Robin Flockton
- ✧ Dustin Kinzett



*The OWA's newly designed gatepost sign.*

## Champion Donor Program - Wall of Champions

On behalf of all the OWA, we thank the following individuals, companies, and organizations for their gifts. The Association is grateful for their generosity and support (Champion Donors as of December 31, 2021).

### Woodlot Champions

#### Black Cherry \$10,000 +

The Jackman Foundation		
------------------------	--	--

#### White Pine \$2,500 - \$9,999

<sup>1</sup> Anonymous (39)		
Maple Leaves Forever	Niagara Land Trust	Sexsmith, David

#### Red Oak \$1,000 - \$2,499

Barton, Jim	MacGregor, Don & Kittie	Somerville, Fred
Borrowman, Gene	McCann, Terry	Somerville, John T.
Brownell, Tom	Meating, Joe	Southwest Woodlot Association
Felder, Herb	O'Neil, Kevin	Steckle, Paul
Fogh, Eyvind	Probst, Lou	Tomosk, Ron
Hopkins, James	Robertson, Denice & Paul	Waterloo/Wellington Chapter of the OWA
Lalande, Richard	Running, Ronald & Maureen	Wood, Douglas
Leenhouts, Pieter	Simser, David R.	Wood-Mizer Canada

#### Sugar Maple \$500 - \$999

Agnew, Sandy	Endura Construction	Morawetz, Anne
Baird, Jack	Farrand, Bruce & Jody	Nilsson, Gus
Baker, Dorothy	Ferguson, David	Paradoski, Brian
Beaver Island Hunt Camp	Frost, Doug	Pytel, Robert
Boyd, Andrew	Hawke, David	Reed, Eleanor & Paul
Broadbent, Matthew	Hubbell - London & Victoria Holdings Inc.	Robinson, Peter and Barbara
Bull, Tony	Keeling, Tim	Rogers, James
Campbell, Bruce	MacIntosh, Ian	Shannon, Art & Kymberley
Clarry, John	MacPherson, William R.	Tank, Jim
Cole, John	McLeod, Isabel	Valk, Matthew
D'Anjou Maureen	Mingie, Bob	Ward, John & Mary Rose
Den Besten, Hendrik	Moeller, Klaus	Wortner, Stanley & Clara
Edwards, Gord	Moody, David & Jasmine	

Red Pine \$200 - \$499		
Allgood, David	Fevang, Ron	Neale, George & Miriam
Andrews, Bill	Fortune, Jamie & Sherry	Nichols, William
Andrews, Greg & Lois	Fralick, Wayne	Olito, Charles
Appleyard, Craig	Fridgen, George WM	Ostrom, Alec
Armstrong, John	Fuchs, Reinald	Parker, Gregory
Bartnik, Jacqueline	GWG Resources Services	Pekos, Peter
Biddle, Devon	Hackett, Andrew	Poitras, Gaetan
Bracadale Holdings Inc.	Hamilton, Dorothy	Renaud, Donald
Bridgwater, Greg	Hill, Peter	Roenigk, Margaret
Bristo, Jeff	Huddak, Tim	Romanoski, Dan
Brown, Jim (Brantford)	Hughes, Ellen	Russell, Jeff
Bruemmer, George	Hutchinson, Harry	Scheifele, Greg
Burch, Tyler	James, Morris	Schwan, Terry
Camp Ponacka	Johnson, Gail	Scott, Walter
Campbell, Ross	Joukema, John & Lenore	Silver, Claude
Chan, Sue	Kennedy, Elaine	Somerville Nurseries Inc.
Chretien, Francis	King, Arden	Stenton, William
Christensen, Chris	Knaapen, Frank	Stewart, Neil
Christie, Martin	Lancaster, Ian	Strait, Mark
Clouthier & Sons	Leach, Mary	Svob, Frank
Coleman, Kerry	Llyod, Michael	Symons, Ellen
Cook, Roger & Elaine	Macaully, John	Taylor, Rosemary
Couture, Marcel	Mach, Caroline	Thomas, Ralph
Cranmer, William	Madzo, Louis	Wheeler, Cody
Currie, David	Malfara, Anthony & Margaret	White, Richard
Docking, Ron	Marnoch, Jane	Wiley, Peter
Dunne-Carter, Karen	McKim, C. Ralph	
Eagleson, Gary	McKittrick, Michael	<b><i>Also, in memory of:</i></b>
Ecker, Reginald & Karen	Mesaglio, Norman	<i>Fraley, Brian McClelland</i>
Elgie, Bill & Earl (Loree)	Miscellaneous	<i>Schell, Donald</i>
Epps, John	Moore, Peter & Gisele	<i>Wipfli, Karl</i>

White Birch \$25 - \$199		
Abicht, Walter	Gardiner, Neil	Pridham, Dave
Achmann, Albert and Ursula	Gatward, William	Purdon, John
Almack, Lorne	Godkin, Ann	Rackus, Denise
Alton, Ron	Gore, Pat	Raleigh Falls Timber
Barr, Lloyd	Greenacre, Nick	Ratcliffe, Walter
Barr, Pat & Larry	Guertin, John	Redick, Orval
Bazinet, Larry	Haak, John	Reid, Ed
Ben Hokum & Sons	Haldimand Chapter	Reniewick, Robert
Benett, Lynn	Hamley, Peter	Renwick, Jim
Bickerstaff, Sandy	Hannes, Friedli	Richardson, Harry
Blackler, Gregg (ken)	Harmsen, Dolf	Robbins, Glenn & Joyce
Blackwell, Timothy	Harris, Graeme	Rose, Lacey
Boki, David	Hayday, Kate	Ruby, Marcee
Bolce, Paul	Haze, Luke	Schell, Donald & Carol
Bonardi, Alixe	Howitt, Keith & Ann	Schlotzhauer, Murray
Bovolotto, Kim	Johnson, Faye	Shelegy, Ted
Brebner, Bryan & Aileen	Keane, Gord	Sheppard, Ted
Bridger, Gregory	Keeso & Sons Ltd., J H	Shorey, Viviane
Bronn, Mike & Pam	Kemp, David	Snyder, Arn
Bryson, Tim	Kenney, Andy	Sprung, Guy
Bryson, Tom	Kreuger, Helmut	Steels, Paul
Burnett, Jessica	Lachance, Marc-Andre	Stephenson, Susan
Burns, Robert A.	Lafora Rod and Gun Club	Stevenson, Douglas
Burwell, William	Lamoureux, Richard & Lynne	Stocks, David & Ann
Cameron, Anne Ruth	Lavern Heidenman & Sons Ltd.	Stratford, Graham
Campbell, Alfred	Limestone Chapter	Stuart, John
Campbell, D.G & B.E	Lindsay, Bill	Swain, Marion
Campbell, Neil	Lisoy, Randy	Syer, Lloyd E.
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Clark, William	Maitland, Lewis	Treichel, Albert
Cochrane, Robert	Mansell, Dan	Turford, Jeffrey
Cole, Nancy	Margetts, Kerry	Upper Trent Valley Chapter
Cole, Stephen & Wendy	Mathewson, Andrew	Van Dieten, Hank
Colwell, Kristin	Mathewson, Jay	Van Every, Lisa & Scott
Cook, Jim	Maximovitch, John	Von Herff, Elisabeth
Craig, Donald	McDonald, J. Charles & Ken	Wagler, Ken

Davies, Stan and Josephine	McLaren, Bob	Wilcock, Brian
Delage, Chris	McMillan, Alex	Wilkins, Rick
Dennis, Doug	McVittie, Don	Williams, Blair & Jean
Dieleman, Martin	Mesmin, Pierre	Willis, Don
Dover, Heather	Miller, Allison	Wilson, Malcolm
Dunning, Neil	Miller, Trever	Wilson, Roger
Ellenor, Sue	Millican, Jill & Dave	Woods, Bill
Elliott, Ken	Miner, John	Wynia, Dolf
Ennis, Barry	Mullins, Barry	Young, Bob
Evans, Joe	Murray, Jonathan	Young, Nancy
Farrell, James	Nash, Jamie	Zednik, Jane
Faulknor, Joy	Nipissing Forest Resources Management	
Ferrell, Rick & Pam	Nyomtato, Wayne	<b><i>Also, in memory of:</i></b>
Forsellino, Dominick & Angelina	O'Connell, George	
Fox, Ronald	Parker, Delbert	<i>Christensen, Chris</i>
Fraas, James	Pengilley, Bruce	<i>McDonald, Donald</i>
Fueten, Nora	Peters, Adrian	<i>Hill, Peter</i>
Galipeau, Anne	Phelan, William & Ann	<i>Siemon, Siegfried</i>
Gardiner Tree Trimming & Removal Ltd.	Potter, John & Mary	<i>Schell, Donald</i>

<sup>1</sup>Accumulative donations of anonymous donors (number of donors). If there are errors or omissions, we apologize and would ask that you kindly contact Joanne Dudka.

More information on the Champion Donor Program is available on the association's website at: <http://www.ontariowoodlot.com> or by calling 613-713-1525.

## Ontario Woodlot Association Budget 2022

### ***Forecasted Revenues***

For 2022, the Board of Directors approved a similar budget to 2021, that is both proactive and forward-looking, and is also intended to continue to grow the Association's activities and outreach through increased project funding and grants, and increased sponsorship and advertising. The positive trend in membership growth is also expected to continue during the year. It is also anticipated that an increase in Champion donations will occur, through marketing and promotional efforts, including through the extensive use of social media. Sales from promotional items (swag) and other woodlot products in the OWA's new Woodlands Store will also continue to help diversify and increase revenues.

## Planned Revenues for 2022

REVENUES	
Membership Fees	\$110,000
Advertising (Website, Enews, Social Media)	\$7,000
AGM, woodlot conference and tour	\$15,000
EOMF/Charity - Service Contracts	\$25,000
Corporate Sponsorships	\$15,000
Investment Income	\$3,000
Champion Donor Program	\$20,000
Sched. A - FSC & Carbon Offsets	\$15,000
Sched. B - The Woodlander	-\$15,000
Sched. C - Fleetwood Co-op	\$10,000
Sched. D - Huronia Co-op	\$15,000
Sched. E - TPA & Grants	\$92,000
Sched. F - Woodlands Store	\$15,000
Sched. G - High Res. Inventory	\$7,000
HST	\$15,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$349,000</b>

***Note:** Projects are now tracked in separate schedules by detailed revenues and expenditures. Net revenue or expenditure for each project is represented by one line item in the revenues section of the budget only.*

### **Forecasted Expenditures**

The OWA will aim to realize a balanced budget for 2022, with anticipated expenditures matching revenues. The largest expenditure line item—salaries and benefits include a fulltime Executive Director, Communications Coordinator, and Office Manager. A parttime Program Coordinator (4 days/week) and a contract Private Land Forest Inventory Analyst are also included in forecasted salary expenditures. Project expenditures, tracked on an individual project basis, collectively form the second highest expenditure item, however these amounts as projected are retractable and will not be fully spent, if funding and grant proposals fail to reach their revenue targets as anticipated.

## Planned Expenditures for 2022

EXPENDITURES	
Salaries and benefits	\$195,000
Office Supplies & General Admin	\$14,000
Staff Support	\$4,000
Rent	\$0
Provincial Executive, Board & Committee Activities	\$3,000
AGM, woodlot conference and tour	\$10,000
Membership Fee Transfer to Chapters	\$34,000
Communications and Marketing	\$5,000
Professional Fees and insurance	\$16,000
Travel (staff and senior mgt.)	\$12,000
Conferences & Memberships	\$3,000
Website	\$10,000
Educational Platform and Course Development	\$4,000
Wild Apricot License and Support	\$5,000
Zoom Licenses and Webinar platform	\$4,000
Staff Training (Wild Apricot, etc.)	\$10,000
Swag/Promotions	\$5,000
Amortization	\$0
HST on expenditures	\$15,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$349,000</b>

### ***Discussion***

The OWA finances remain dependant on a provincial grant for a substantial portion of the annual budget. The OWA has reserve funds sufficient to support operations for up to two years without the provincial grant, and to cover legal requirements for contracts if the OWA is required to wind down. Efforts continue to be made to diversify revenues and to secure project funding and corporate sponsorships, with increasing success realized in 2021. However, a significant increase in sponsorships, project funding or other revenue diversification is required in the next five years to make OWA fully financially stable and self-sufficient.





**Statement of Operations**  
**For the Year Ended December 31, 2021**

*(Unaudited)*

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<b>Revenues</b>		
Corporate partnerships	99,310	5,310
Membership fees	93,280	69,538
New Projects	86,735	36,864
Landowner outreach program	77,500	50,000
Advertising	23,744	13,825
Publication sales, signs & misc.	17,777	2,248
Annual general meeting	7,326	4,396
Champion donor program	7,079	6,502
Service contracts	2,916	11,665
Interest income	2,084	4,108
Friends of the OWA	100	80
	<b>417,851</b>	<b>204,536</b>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>		
Salaries and wages	209,154	100,670
Projects	51,452	33,043
The Ontario Woodlander	32,145	20,154
Office	31,287	6,080
Membership fee transfer to chapters	26,735	20,402
Websites	10,397	9,825
HST expense	7,857	3,301
Travel	7,548	3,097
Insurance	5,609	4,715
Professional fees	4,542	4,800
OWA Board and committee expenses	2,592	3,505
Communications	1,229	807
Annual general meeting	721	749
Champion donor program	112	110
Amortization	717	78
	<b>392,097</b>	<b>211,336</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses from operations</b>	<b>25,754</b>	<b>(6,800)</b>
<b>Other revenues</b>		
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	-	2,554
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses</b>	<b>25,754</b>	<b>(4,246)</b>

**Statement of Financial Position  
As at December 31, 2021**

*(Unaudited)*

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Assets</b>		
Current		
Cash	56,642	51,313
Term deposits	184,307	182,244
Accounts receivable	37,493	7,402
Prepaid expenses	1,742	1,575
	<b>280,184</b>	242,534
Capital assets	1,706	225
	<b>281,890</b>	242,759
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current		
Accounts payable	11,288	974
Harmonized sales tax payable	7,795	6,211
Employee deductions payable	4,190	2,711
Deferred income	10,414	10,414
	<b>33,687</b>	20,310
<b>Net assets</b>		
General fund	248,203	222,449
	<b>281,890</b>	242,759

**Statement of Changes in Net Assets  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021**

*(Unaudited)*

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Balance, beginning of year</b>	<b>222,449</b>	226,695
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	25,754	(4,246)
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>248,203</b>	222,449

**Note to Financial Information**  
**December 31, 2021**

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*(Unaudited)*

**1. Basis of accounting**

The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the financial information of Ontario Woodlot Association as at December 31, 2021, and for the year then ended reflects cash transactions with the addition of:

- Accounts receivable
- Capital assets amortized over their useful life
- Membership fees deferred until services have been rendered
- Investments recorded at market value
- Interest receivable
- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities



*OWA's University of Toronto Master of Forest Conservation Summer Interns (left to right) Ben Gwilliam and Shan Shukla, at the Fleetwood Community Forest Owners Cooperative in July 2021.*